REMARKS

Election/Restriction

Affirmation of the provisional election stated in paragraphs 1 and 2, election of group directed to Claims 1 – 3, 6 – 13, and 16 – 20, without traverse, is made for current examination purposes.

Drawings

Regarding reference characters 20, 24, 27 and 29 shown in Fig. 2 but not mentioned in the specification, applicant has replaced specification paragraph [0016] thereby providing description of reference character elements in Fig. 2. The elements match those of Fig. 1 but were originally renumbered for clarity of the separate embodiment in Fig. 2.

Regarding the pressure sensor not shown in the figures, applicant has canceled or withdrawn all claims having the pressure transducer feature claimed; Claims 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, and 18. Drawing correction is not necessary.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-3, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being anticipated by Diaz (U.S. 6,762,679). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 11 to incorporate the claim limitations of canceled claims 3 and 13, respectively, and to further clarify the distinction that the applicant's invention relies on one linear hall effect sensor to sense the tank fluid parameter (see paragraphs [0003] and [0014] "only one sensor"). Prior devices, like Diaz's adapter, use multiple Hall effect sensors to measure tank level changes, not one linear sensor as the applicant teaches. Multiple sensor devices provide tank level readings in ranges between each sensors. Reliability is lower and calibration is more difficult for multiple sensor units due to series failure probabilities and manufacturing tolerances. Readings from multiple sensor units may be inaccurate because all sensors may, unknowingly, not be functioning properly.

Diaz teaches the use of multiple sensors [col. 3, lines 11 – 30 and 42 – 59; Claims 1, 9, 13 and 17; Figs. 2A and 2B] to make measurements with his adapter. The digital embodiment of Figure 2A has 3 sensors (references 22, 23, and 24). The analog embodiment of Figure 2B has 2 sensors (references 27 and 28). Both digital and analog versions require multiple sensors and hence suffer lower reliability and accuracy than applicant's single sensor device.

The rejection is overcome, and applicants respectfully request withdrawal thereof.

Claims 6 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,762,679 to Diaz in view of U.S. Patent 4,804,944 to Gollady. Applicant has canceled rejected claims thereby making the rejection moot.

The rejection is overcome, and applicants respectfully request withdrawal thereof.

Applicant confirms that no new matter is introduced with these amendments. In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the Examiner's rejections are overcome, and that applicant's claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore earnestly solicit allowance thereof, and the issue of U.S. letters patent therefore

Respectfully submitted:

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